(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) (Ministry of Women and Child Development);

(ii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant and nursing mothers (Ministry of Women and Child Development);

(iii) Nutrittion Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women and Child Development);

(iv) National Rural Health Mission (RCH-II) including Iron and Folic Acid and Vitamin A Supplementation Programmes (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare);

(v) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare);

(vi) Targetted Public Distribution System (Department of Food and Public Distribution);

(vii) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme/Swajaldhara and Total Sanitation Campaign; National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (Ministry of Rural Development).

Crimes against children

†695. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps in connection with prevention of crimes against children such as exploitation of children which includes physical and economic exploitation, child trafficking, domestic violence and corporal punishment at school etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The issues relating to crimes and violence against children are being addressed through several provision which include Constitutional Provisions, Legislations, Policies, Plan of Action and various schemes and programmes for children. Article 23 of the Constitution prohibits trafficking of human

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

being and Aricle 24 prohibits employment of children below the age of fourteen years in factories, mines or any other hazardous occupation. There are many legislations for the protection of children, such as, Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, Pre-Conception and Pre-natal Diagnosic Technique (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 and others. National Policy for Children and National Charter for Children provides provisions for ensuring various rights for children. There are schemes and programmes which include Integrated Programme for Street Children, National Child Labour Project, Child line Services, Grant-in-Aid Scheme for Pilot projects for combating trafficking and others. In addition to above, Central Board of Secondary Education has also directed all institutions affiliated to it to ensure that no child is subjected to any corporal punishment in schools.

Blue-print for empowerment of women

696. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any blue-print of comprehensive scheme aiming at empowerment of women in social, political and economic areas so as to adequately safeguard them from any kind of exploitation, their work environment being congenial, payment of equal wages, micro-level financial modalities, etc.; and

(b) if so, the views of National Commission for Women regarding NGOs working in the field of women welfare and other social organisations, eminent women activists, international women-oriented bodies, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Government of India has adopted the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001 with the objective of bringing about the development and empowerment of women in all spheres. The Policy is available on the website of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (www.wcd.nic.in). The involvement of Voluntary Organisations will be ensured.